

Message Text

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72

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-05 EUR-06 IO-09 ADP-00 IGA-02 EB-05 FDRE-00

PA-02 PRS-01 INR-10 /100 W

----- 118368

R 181045Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3929

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY GENEVA

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USUN NEW YORK 0599

AMEMBASSY BANJUL

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AIDAC

EO 11652N/A

STATE FOR AFR/CWR/SDE, ROME FOR FODAG, BRUSSELS FOR WENDT,
PARIS FOR RAIDT

SUBJ: SAHELIAN DROUGHT-DONORS MEETING

1. ON JULY 16 UN RESREP YAEGER CALLED A MEETING OF DONOR
REPRESENTATIVES FROM CANADA, UK, FRG, FAC, HOLLAND, ITALY AND
USA. PURPOSE OF MEETING WAS TO OBTAIN DONOR VIEWS ON TRANSPORT
PROBLEMS OF RELIEF GRAIN IN THIS AREA AND PARTICULARLY
TO DISCUSS CURRENT AIRLIFT AND POSSIBLE NEED FOR EXPANDING
IT.

2. DISCUSSION FOCUSED FIRST ON MALI AND WFP REP SAID RAILROAD
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MOVEMENTS OF GRAIN HAD NEARLY DOUBLED IN JUNE (AS REPORTED

DAKAR 2753 AND 2781) TO LEVEL OF 11,200 TONS. HE NOTED 28,000 TONS OF GRAIN FOR MALI WILL ARRIVE IN PORT OF DAKAR IN NEXT TEN DAYS AND 14,000 TONS MORE ARE DUE IN AUGUST. THUS, AT CURRENT RAILROAD CAPACITY, ALL GRAIN WILL BE DELIVERED IN COURSE NEXT FOUR MONTHS. HE ADDED THAT MALI EMERGENCY COORDINATION OPERATIONS IN DAKAR WERE VERY EFFECTIVE IN DETERMINING WHAT WOULD BE SHIPPED FROM DAKAR AND WHEN. ADO REPS, USING SUBSTANCE RECENT EM BAMAKO REPORT, SAID DAKAR-BAMAKO AIRLIFT NOT NOW REQUIRED VIEW EXCESSIVE COST AND CURRENT RR CAPACITY AND THAT RAF AND USAF OPERATIONS SHOULD MEET INTERNAL MINIMUM NEEDS UNTIL RIVER NAVIGATION POSSIBLE LATE AUGUST.

3. RAF CREW COMMANDER REPORTED RAF LIFTED 300 TONS OF MEDICINES AND OTHER SUPPLIES TO NIGXO IN TEN DAYS' OPERATIONS AND THAT IN TWO DAYS SUCH SHIPMENTS WILL BE COMPLETED. HOWEVER, RAF HAS BEEN ASKED TO FLY 200 TONS OF RICE TO KAYES AND HAS AGREED TO DO SO IF GROUND SUPPORT AND REFUELING IS POSSIBLE. DUTCH AMBASSADOR NOTED THAT ON JULY 14 GOM AMBASSADOR IN DAKAR ASKED THAT DUTCH MILITARY'S FOKKER AIRCRAFT NOW IN DAKAR ALSO CARRY 200 TONS OF RICE TO KAYES. HIS AIRCRAFT COMMANDER NOTED THERE IS NO FUEL IN DAYES AND IT MUST BE CARRIED ON CRAFT ITSELF, THUS REDUCING PAYLOAD TO FOUR TONS PER FLIGHT. AMBASSADOR QUESTIONED NEED FOR UNDERTAKING THIS EXPENSIVE AIRLIFT IN VIEW RAILROAD CAPACITY OF KAYES.

4. THERE WAS UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT THAT IF 11,000 TONS MONTHLY LEVEL FOR RAILROAD SHIPMENT OF GRAIN TO MALI CA BE MAINTAINED, ADDITIONAL AIRLIFT TO OR WITHIN MALI DID NOT NOW APPEAR TO BE WARRANTED. IT WAS ALSO AGREED THAT SITUATION WOULD BE REVIEWED BY MID AUGUST.

5. YAEGER NOTED AND DONORS AGREED THAT DISTRIBUTION OF RELIEF COMMODITIES FOR THE GAMBIA, SENEGAL AND MAURITANIA GOING WELL AND THERE WAS NO NEED TO CONSIDER AIRLIFT ASSISTANCE. (ADO REPS NOTED MAURITANIA'S CURRENT INTRA COUNTRY AIRLIFT REQUIREMENTS BEING MET BY FAO CHARTERED C130'S AND FRENCH NORD AIRCRAFT, PER NOUAKCHOTT 616).

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6. UNRESREP CONTINUES TO PLAY ACTIVE, LOW KEY AND EFFECTIVE ROLE AS COORDINATING AGENT.
CLARK

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